

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 SNM-02 DEAE-00 TRSE-00

JUSE-00 SY-02 INR-10 INRE-00 NSC-07 NSCE-00 L-02

OMB-01 DRC-01 /050 W

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FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4398

S E C R E T KINGSTON 1193

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PIN, SNAR, JM

SUBJ: NATIONAL SECURITY AND JUSTICE MINISTER'S REQUEST FOR A MEETING

REF: KINGSTON 1022

1. MINISTER OF NATIONAL SECURITY AND JUSTICE, ELI MATALON, HAS REQUESTED A MEETING IN KINGSTON WITHIN THE NEXT 48 HOURS WITH "THE NUMBER ONE MAN" IN US DRUG ENFORCEMENT. THE MINISTER STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE HE ATTACHED TO A MEETING WITH THE MOST SENIOR OFFICIAL AVAILABLE.

2. MATALON MENTIONED AN OFFER FROM FIDEL CASTRO TO ESTABLISH A RADAR NET IN JAMAICA TO ASSIST THE GOJ IN THE SUPPRESSION OF ILLICIT TRAFFICKING IN NARCOTICS, BUT INDICATED THAT, WHILE THERE WERE SHORT TERM BENEFITS, SUCH ASSISTANCE WAS NOT ACCEPTABLE TO HIM PERSONALLY.

3. COMMENT: AS REPORTED PREVIOUSLY, MATALON IS DETERMINED TO UTILIZE ANY MEANS AT HIS DISPOSAL TO SOLVE THE JAMAICAN CRIME PROBLEM AND APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN GIVEN CARTE BLANCHE BY THE PM TO DO SO. WHILE MATALON MAY APPEAR TO BE SOMEWHAT FLAMBOYANT AT TIMES, HE IS APPROACHING THE PROBLEM FROM A NUMBER OF DIFFERENT ANGLES AND APPEARS TO BE CONVINCED THAT THERE IS A LINKAGE

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BETWEEN THE JAMAICAN GUN CRIME PROBLEM AND ILLICIT NARCOTICS

TRAFFICK. THE EMBASSY BELIEVES THE REQUESTED MEETING WOULD BE USEFUL, BOTH IN FURTHERING US-JAMAICAN COOPERATION IN NARCOTICS CONTROL AND IN GIVING MATALON A REALISTIC ASSESSMENT OF THE PROBLEM, METHODS TO COPE WITH IT, AND POSSIBLE AVENUES OF US ASSISTANCE. MATALON WILL PROBABLY WISH TO DISCUSS US RADAR CAPABILITIES AND CLOSER COOPERATION IN THE SUPPRESSION OF THE TRAFFIC IN GUNS AND DRUGS.

4. PLEASE ADVISE ASAP.

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NNN

Message Attributes

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